



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



January 2004

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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KENTUCKY, Northeast

KYZ101>103-105

Greenup - Carter - Boyd - Lawrence

25	1100EST 2100EST			0	0				Winter Storm
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Snow and sleet accumulated 1 to 2 inches before changing to freezing rain in the afternoon. The ice from freezing rain accumulated a quarter to a half inch during the late afternoon and early evening. Temperatures rose above freezing overnight. Besides treacherous roads, no major power outages were reported.

OHIO, Southeast

OHZ066>067-075>076-083>085

Perry - Morgan - Athens - Washington - Jackson - Vinton - Meigs

04 07	1100EST 1400EST			0	0	1.7M			Flood
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A strong frontal boundary pushed across southeast Ohio late on the 3rd. By dawn on the 4th, the frontal zone stalled just to the south. Late on the 4th and into the 5th, a low pressure wave lifted northeast, along this boundary, and through the Ohio River Valley.

Rains of 1.5 to 3.3 inches fell on saturated ground, during about a 36 hour time span. One rain maximum extended northeast from the Scioto River Valley, across the northern half of Perry County, then continued northeast into the Muskingum River Valley. Another maximum of rain extended out of central Vinton County, across central Athens County, and into central and northern Washington County. McArthur measured 3.3 inches of rain for the event. Other rain measurements from cooperative observers included 2.6 inches at Athens, 2.3 inches at McConnelsville, 2.2 inches from Nelsonville, 2 inches at Marietta, 1.9 inches at Beverly, 1.6 inches from both New Lexington and Jackson.

Widespread small stream flooding occurred on Sunday the 4th and Monday the 5th. In Jackson County, the stream flooding was limited to townships near the Vinton County border. Water was 2 to 3 feet deep in the streets of Glenford of northern Perry County. Water and debris forced numerous road closures. As the water receded, cleanup was complicated by some ice formation.

River flooding followed on the Muskingum, the Hocking, and on the Ohio. The swollen rivers also caused feeder streams to have backwater flooding. During the morning of the 5th, the Muskingum River crested at McConnelsville of Morgan County around 12.7 feet. Flood stage is 11 feet. This was the highest water level at McConnelsville since the 12.8 feet back in August, 1980. About 27 homes and 1 business along the river in Morgan County sustained at least major damage. All total, about 77 homes in Morgan County, were affected to some degree.

At Athens, the Hocking River crested around 21.3 feet about midday on the 6th. Flood stage is 20 feet. The floods of 1997 and 1998 were higher at Athens. The county engineer reported about a dozen road slippages and a dozen road washouts on roads in Athens County. Near dawn on the 6th, York Township firemen rescued a woman whose vehicle was washed into the Hocking River from County Route 4. She called 911 on her cell phone, while the water was rushing into her vehicle. She got outside and on to the roof, but was swept off the vehicle by the rushing water. She was in the water for nearly 45 minutes, with air temperatures in the 20s. When rescued by boat, her head was poking out of the water and one arm was hanging on to a brush pile. The fire chief commented, about how lucky she was. He said the spot where she drove into the water is usually a dead zone for cell phone service, but somehow she got a signal.

The Ohio River crested at Marietta at 36.8 feet during the afternoon of the 6th. Flood stage is 34 feet. The flood of January 1996 crested at 39.3 feet. Further down the Ohio River, the crest at Racine was 44.7 feet, plus near 47.3 feet at Pomeroy, both on the 7th.

In Washington County, the heaviest flood damage was along the Muskingum River, plus the usual low lying sections in the city of Marietta. Three occupied dwellings were destroyed in Washington County. Over 200 dwellings were affected to some degree. Local fire departments in Washington County performed several rescues, most of which were along County Route 32, known as the Muskingum River Road.

Athens, Morgan, Perry, and Washington Counties were included in a major federal disaster declaration. See FEMA disaster 1507 for the specifics.



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OHIO, Southeast

OHZ066>067-075>076-083>087 Perry - Morgan - Athens - Washington - Jackson - Vinton - Meigs - Gallia - Lawrence

25	1200EST	0	0	Winter Storm
26	0200EST			

Snow and sleet spread north through southeast Ohio during Sunday afternoon, the 25th. The snow and sleet accumulations ranged from 1 to 2 inches in Lawrence and Gallia Counties, to as much as 3 to 5 inches across Washington, Morgan, Athens, Vinton, and Perry Counties. The snow and sleet changed to freezing rain during the late afternoon and evening. Ice accumulated a quarter to a half inch from the freezing rain. No major power outages occurred.

VIRGINIA, Northwest

VAZ003

Dickenson				
02	1100EST	0	0	Flood
	1400EST			

Rains of 1.25 to 2 inches fell in about a 6 hour time span. This caused small streams to overflow and block roads. A few of the affected streams included Pine Creek, Bearpen Branch, and Road Branch.

VAZ003>004

Dickenson - Buchanan				
25	0800EST	0	0	Ice Storm
	1400EST			

Freezing rain accumulated a quarter to a half inch on trees and power lines. Temperatures rose above freezing during the afternoon. No widespread power outages were reported.

WEST VIRGINIA, West

WVZ005>011-013>020-024>040-047 Wayne - Cabell - Mason - Jackson - Wood - Pleasants - Tyler - Lincoln - Putnam - Kanawha - Roane - Wirt - Calhoun - Ritchie - Doddridge - Mingo - Logan - Boone - Clay - Braxton - Gilmer - Lewis - Harrison - Taylor - McDowell - Wyoming - Raleigh - Fayette - Nicholas - Webster - Upshur - Barbour - Randolph

25	1000EST	0	0	Winter Storm
26	0200EST			

WVZ046

Pocahontas				
25	1300EST	0	0	Heavy Snow
26	0200EST			

Sleet started across Mingo and McDowell Counties by 1000E. The precipitation spread north, reaching the Parkersburg, Clarksburg, and Elkins corridor after 1500E. Further north, the precipitation started as snow, but changed to sleet. Snow and sleet accumulated less than an inch as far north at Huntington and Charleston, and in the 1 to 3 inch range for the southern mountains around Beckley, plus through the Parkersburg to Sutton region. Three inches of snow and sleet accumulated in the Clarksburg to Elkins vicinities.

The snow and sleet changed to freezing rain with temperatures still in the low and mid 20s. This transition to freezing rain began around 1500E for Huntington and Charleston, then after dark for Parkersburg, Clarksburg, and Elkins. The precipitation remained mainly in the frozen form across Pocahontas County. New snow accumulations ranged from 4 to 9 inches across Pocahontas County, before being topped off with some freezing drizzle. As the precipitation ended overnight, temperatures climbed to near or above freezing. Treacherous roads were common, but no major power outages occurred.